RAWR
Why won't you release the next chapter?!
W...
Can I help you?

What can I do to help?
B-b-but! I don't know how to edit or translate
Fan Girl
/

It's not like YOU helped out any.
We don't have enough translators or editors.
Stop yelling already.
!!!

Visit our website for details.
Find us some translators and editors and you'll have your next chapter.
http://www.aerandria.net

Happy 1st Anniversary, Midnight Scans!

Looking back at the past year, we struggled to match each other's pace and to get to where we are now is a great accomplishment and one of the best memories we could have. As we worked to keep the group active, we tumbled upon a lot of troubles and embarrassing moments (IE; editing in the toilet *Gough*). We are glad that we have each other and that we stand united to face whatever troubles may hit us.

We would like to take this moment to thank all the readers who have been following our releases.
Thank you for being patient as we procrastinated in releasing our chapters.

We also want to give thanks to our joint partners for allowing us the chance to work with them and also learning a thing or two, here and there and most of all being very patient when we are slow.
We would also love to shout out our thanks to kuinni. Without you, we wouldn't have made it this far (with the pretty site and forum), as you have let us abuse the server you set up for us! You'll always be one of us!

To the Proofreader Divison:
Thank you for staying calm despite how little time you have to work on the masses of chapters given.

To the Translator's Division:
Without you girls, we are definitely a dead group. Thanks a lot sachie, camui and susi who speed up their TL-ing and work till the wee hours of the morning just for the group. Awww.

To the Editor's Division:
It's amazing that you are still intact and not running away because of the mighty bamboo katana that whips and tortures you all to work like mad. xD Thanks for all the lovely and great edits you have given!

The Scanners:
Words cannot express our gratitude, as you fork out money from your own pocket and buy the mangas for our group. We love your scans and we hope we can look forward to more beautiful scans and bishie/bishoujo coming from you...

-Midnight Scans-

COMING SOON:

MISSA - MIDNIGHT SCANS

5th Step Can you fall in love with your husband after marrying him?

Hapi Mari

~ Happy Marriage!? ~

http://www.luv-records.jp/title/yorucafe/

Maki Enjoji presents

Enjouji Maki

The season of training for the new workers.

Spring-

I AM YAGAMI YUU, AND I AM GOING TO START WORKING IN THIS COMPANY THIS YEAR.

PLEASE TREAT ME KINDLY.

Awww! He's so cute!

There are people who need to be trained at our general affairs department, too.

SO...

TAKA-NASHI-KUN!

I'M SORRY THAT THIS IS RATHER SUDDEN, BUT PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YAGAMI-KUN.

WHAT? ME?!

AH, SAME HERE.

IT'S ONLY GOING TO BE FOR A SHORT TIME,

BUT PLEASE TAKE CARE OF ME, SENPAI.

TAAAKAAA-NAAASHI!!!

I already told them that I'm not in the mood for that, but...

All of a sudden, I got into quite a troublesome situation...

DIRTY TRICK?! OF COURSE I DIDN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

How nice. It's spring, huh? For you only.

I WANT TO SWITCH WITH SOMEONE ELSE!

I'm so jealous. You can spend some training time alone with our cute new-comer...

What kind of dirty trick did you pull?

EVEN THOUGH HIS FACE IS HIDDEN, IT'S OBVIOUSLY OUR PRESIDENT!

"KISHI YUKANA: A DATE WITH A HOT YOUNG BUSINESSMAN LATE AT NIGHT."

ATE WITH A HOT

TA——DA

WE'RE REALLY UPSET RIGHT NOW!

OF COURSE!

ANYWAY,

YOU TWO SEEM KIND OF ON THE EDGE.

A DATE WITH A

YOUNG BUSINESSMAN

late at night!

AFTER SEEING SOMETHING LIKE THIS SO EARLY IN THE MORNING!

THERE WAS MEDIA ALL OVER THE COMPANY ENTRANCE, TOO!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

They covered his eyes with ink, but that stupid-looking guy

is, without a doubt, my husband.

Yes, that's right.

Just as I thought something was going on, Souma-san called out to me.

EXCUSE ME...

?

When I went to work just like I always do this morning,

the media was all over the company entrance.

?

?

NOISY

NOISY

HE ONLY HAD DINNER WITH HER DUE TO HIS CONNECTION WITH THE PRESIDENT OF AN ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION COMPANY.

IT WAS ABOUT A PROMOTIONAL COMMERCIAL RELATED TO OUR BUSINESS.

A DATE WITH A HOT

YOU

IT APPEARS THAT PRODUCTION COMPANY ALSO PULLED SOME STRINGS.

WE DIDN'T MAKE IT IN TIME,

SO HE WANTS YOU TO KNOW THE TRUTH BEHIND THIS BEFORE HAND.

I didn't care about that at all.

even though I'm his wife.

The thing is, he didn't tell me anything about this.

We saw each other this morning, but he didn't say a single word,

THIS FILE SHOULD BE FINE, RIGHT?

I'M SORRY FOR TAKING SO LONG.

AH, THANK YOU!

I feel worked up, too!

I can't believe you did that!

HEY, YOU! HE'S NOT YOUR ERRAND-RUNNER!

AH, NO, PLEASE DON'T SAY THAT.

SHUT UP! I'M FOLLOWING THE TRAINING PROGRAM—

I'VE BROUGHT THIS HERE, TAKANASHI-SAN!

RUNNING ERRANDS AND SUCH,

I CAN LEARN A LOT FROM EVERYTHING RIGHT NOW.

SEE?

Oh, my.

What a good boy.

I wonder

if he'll tell me anything when we get home...

EH? SO EARLY?

I'M HOME

UNTIL THE HEAT DIES DOWN, YEAH.

STARE

WHAT IS IT?

W-WHAT THEY WROTE IN THE ARTICLE ISN'T T-TRUE, RIGHT?

THE MEDIA IS ALL OVER THE PLACE.

THUD

I PRETTY MUCH CAN'T GO OUTSIDE.

YOU'RE CURIOUS ABOUT IT?

JEALOUS?

I SEE .. I'M GOING BACK TO MY ROOM.

GOOD NIGHT.

Why won't he say anything directly to me?

I'm his wife, all right?

That's all?

THEY DON'T HAVE ANY JUICY STORY IN THE ENTERTAINMENT WORLD RIGHT NOW, YOU SEE

THEY MUST BE THINKING THAT AS LONG AS THEY WAIT, SOMETHING MIGHT COME UP.

HEY, YOU.

DON'T WORRY.

SOUMA ALREADY TOLD YOU ALL THAT HAPPENED.

I had the feeling

that something changed between us after that kiss.

But maybe I'm the only one who thinks that way.

THE MEDIA

IS STILL AT THE ENTRANCE THIS MORNING.

THEY'RE SO OBSTINATE, AND THEY HAVE TOO MUCH FREE TIME.

Yagami Yuu-kun

DO YOU THINK SO AS WELL, YAGAMI-KUN?

YEAH

BUT I GUESS IT'S UNDER-STANDABLE.

OUR PRESIDENT SEEMS LIKE THE PLAYBOY TYPE

YES. HE'S GOOD-LOOKING.

AND EVEN THOUGH I'M A GUY AS WELL, I MUST SAY, HE LOOKS HOT.

Is very sociable and easy to talk to.

Maybe it's because he's near my age.

AH, HOW SHOULD I LOOK AT THIS CHART?

AH, LIKE THIS.

He's serious and honest.

It's very easy to give him guidance.

so against my better judgment...

THE ONE ABOUT YOUR FRIEND'S BOYFRIEND POSSIBLE TWO-TIMING?

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN AFTER THAT?

YOU SEE...

BY THE WAY, ABOUT WHAT I TOLD YOU THE OTHER DAY...

AH, I SEE.

I MEAN, SOMETIMES, WOMEN FORCE KISSES ON MEN, TOO.

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT IF I DON'T GO ALL THE WAY WITH SOMEONE, IT SHOULD BE FINE

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS CHEATING, YAGAMI-KUN?

B-BY THE WAY,

HMM... MAYBE HE'S NOT AS COMMITTED IN THE RELATIONSHIP AS SHE IS?

MEN PROBABLY HAVE A DIFFERENT DEFINITION OF CHEATING THAN WOMEN.

WOULDN'T EXPLAIN ANYTHING TO HER, AND I WONDER WHY.

I end up telling him about this kind of thing...

BUT THERE ARE ALSO THOSE WHO GET REALLY UPTIGHT WHEN THEIR BOYFRIENDS ONLY HAVE DINNER WITH SOMEONE ELSE.

FLINCH

MY FRIEND AND HER BOYFRIEND...

I MEAN,

THEY'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE, I HEARD.

IT'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT MATTER!

THEN

EH?!

AH . BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE,

I FEEL THAT HE CAN'T HELP CHEATING ON HER.

I-I DON'T KNOW THAT MUCH!

BUT WHY DOES SHE NOT LET HIM DO IT?

HE CAN PUT UP WITH HER EVEN THOUGH SHE DOESN'T LET HIM DO IT

MEANING SHE'S A GOOD WOMAN...?

YES I WONDER WHY,

BUT THE ONES WHO'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE ARE OFTEN FINE WITH IT.

So you think so after all?

EH, YOU THINK SO? THAT'S GREAT, THEN.

THAT REALLY HELPED. I'LL LET MY FRIEND KNOW.

HAHA

This is no good. The more I think about it, the worse I feel.

CLATTER

MAYBE WE SHOULD GET GOING SOON.

WE CANNOT KEEP STAYING IN THE CONFER-ENCE ROOM FOREVER.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

Nope, that's not possible.

He's never seen me as a woman, anyway.

DOES THE NEW WORKER THAT YOU'RE TRAINING SEEM USABLE,

INSTRUCTOR?

In the end,

I wonder what Hokuto thinks of me...

MY, MY,

I THINK YOU CAN TELL THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT THAT THEY RECRUITED A GOOD EMPLOYEE.

I SEE SHE TELLS HIM EVERYTHING.

WELL, HE'S ENTHUSIASTIC, VERY HONEST, AND A FAST LEARNER.

OH?

DID I TELL YOU ABOUT HIM?

I HEARD FROM SOUMA.

HMM?

YEAH

THE MEDIA IS STILL AFTER YOU, HUH?

That's all, again?

Isn't it kind of unfair?

IT'S A TEST OF ENDURANCE.

THEY'RE NOT GOING TO FIND ANYTHING NO MATTER HOW HARD THEY TRY, THOUGH.

He hears everything about me from Souma-san,

but I can't find out anything about him.

THE NEW KID.

HIS NAME IS YAGAMI-KUN.

HE SAID YOU'RE GOOD-LOOKING.

HEH.

BUT HE ALSO SAID YOU SEEM LIKE THE PLAYBOY TYPE.

HEY, WHAT KIND OF THINGS DO YOU TWO TALK ABOUT?

You should deny it?

IT'S FUN TO TALK TO HIM.

HE'S NEAR MY AGE.

I CAN RELAX AROUND HIM,

AND I CAN TALK WITH HIM ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS

THAT I CAN'T TELL YOU.

RUN RUN RUN

ANYWAY, GOOD NIGHT.

I THINK YOU'RE SUITED TO DO BUSINESS, YAGAMI-KUN.

WELL, I PREFER INDOOR WORK, THOUGH.

I'LL HAVE BUSINESS TRAINING NEXT.

I HEARD IT'S PRETTY HARSH.

SIGH

MY TRAINING HERE WILL END TOMORROW, HUH?

REALLY? BUT, WELL, DO YOUR BEST AT YOUR NEXT PLACE!

THAT ASIDE,

WELL, YOU'LL HAVE TO RUN AROUND EVERY DAY.

BUT YOU'LL BE FINE.

TAKANASHI-SAN?

WHY WOULDN'T YOU

LET YOUR BOYFRIEND GO ALL THE WAY.

That's... right.

If it's Yagami-kun, who might tell me something...

I DON'T REALLY GET IT, EITHER, ACTUALLY.

IT'S LIKE, I'M ALREADY IN ON THIS, SO...

BUT IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN HELP WITH, I'D BE GLAD TO HEAR YOU OUT.

FROM THE WAY YOU SAID IT, IT SOUNDED LIKE YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT YOURSELF

WELL,

EH? WHY ME? THAT WAS MY FRIEND...

.....

So he's one cut above me.

I DON'T INTEND TO POKE MY NOSE INTO YOUR BUSINESS.

BUT I'M JUST A BIT CURIOUS.

I WONDER WHAT I REALLY THINK ABOUT HIM.

EVEN THOUGH I SAY WE'RE DATING, WHAT'S THE INDICATOR THAT WE'RE IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER?

I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT ME, EITHER

HE NEVER TELLS ME ANYTHING... AND HE DOESN'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING TO ME

THEN,

BUT IN THAT CASE,

IT SEEMS THAT I STILL HAVE A CHANCE.

I ACCIDENTALLY TOLD YOU WHAT WAS ON MY MIND

AH, I'M SORRY!

...

I'M NOT MAKING FUN OF YOU AT ALL!

It's a long story

ISN'T THAT A PROBLEM FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVEN'T STARTED DATING YET?

I don't get it.

WHACK

YANK

EH?

...!

IF HE LOVES YOU, HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LEAVE YOU ALONE.

HE MIGHT BE PRETENDING TO HAVE THE UPPER HAND HERE.

No...

IF HE DOES LEAVE YOU ALONE, THAT MEANS HE DOESN'T HAVE THAT MUCH FEELINGS FOR YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE

BUT IF HE DOESN'T EVEN TRY TO EXPLAIN TO YOU ABOUT HIS TWO-TIMING, THEN THAT'S THE END OF IT.

Stop it already.

--OP.

HE ACTUALLY DOESN'T THINK ANYTHING OF YOU?

DOESN'T THAT MEAN

STOP IT ..

I'm about to cry...

BUT IF IT WAS ME,

I WOULDN'T LET YOU FEEL THAT WAY.

CLA

CK

!

I'M SORRY FOR GETTING IN THE WAY.

I HEARD THAT YOU'RE IN THE HOT-WATER SUPPLY ROOM, SO I WENT LOOKING FOR YOU, TAKANASHI-SAN.

Souma-san saw us!

SHOCKED

OH, DEAR

UM. IS IT BAD FOR CO-WORKERS TO BE ROMANTICALLY INVOLVED WITH EACH OTHER?

NO, BUT IT'S BETTER IF YOU DON'T DO IT TOO OPENLY.

I'LL TALK TO YOU LATER, TAKANASHI-SAN.

He's going to know...

Hokuto is going to know...

I'll make some tea!

Ah, all right.

What should I do? What should I do?

MAN, THAT SURPRISED ME. WAS SHE IN THE GENERAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT?

TAKA-NASHI-SAN?

S-SOUMA-SAN

U-UM.. ABOUT WHAT JUST HAPPENED...

NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.

WELL... THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WONDERING IF I SHOULD TELL YOU OR NOT...

?

ACTUALLY

MRS PRESIDENT.

!

HUFF

President's office

HUFF

HUFF

HOKUTO!

TICK

SO YOU'VE COME AFTER ALL.

. . . .

ARE YOU GOING TO SEE KISHI YUKANA AGAIN TODAY?!

WHY?!

FLOP

AFTER ALL THAT TROUBLE TO LAY LOW UNTIL THE HEAT DIES DOWN?!

DOES IT BOTHER YOU?

BAM

I'M SORRY, MRS. PRESIDENT!

PRESIDENT, I THINK YOU SHOULDN'T —

PRESI-DENT!

...!

CLOSE

CLOP

CLOP

DON'T WORRY.

I HAVE NO PLAN TO MEET WITH KISHI YUKANA TONIGHT

?

THERE SHOULD BE A BETTER WAY TO—

SORRY FOR GETTING YOU INVOLVED, SOUMA.

CAN YOU LEAVE FOR A MOMENT?

THEN WHY DID YOU LIE ..?

TO SEE HOW YOU'D REACT

SINCE YOU SUDDENLY SAID SOMETHING THE OTHER DAY THAT I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND.

UNTIL THE HEAT DIES DOWN...

YEAH, IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID.

?!

DRIP

DROP

SUDDENLY TELLING ME THE NAME OF THAT NEWCO-MER AND-

-AROUND!

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ME?!

STOP JOKING AROUND!

AM

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA

HOW JEALOUS I'VE BEEN FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS?!

DO YOU UNDER-STAND

WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY WANTING TO SEE HOW I'D REACT?!

BUT YOU'RE NOT THAT MUCH BETTER THAN ME!

YOU

LOVE ME-

THIS IS JUST YOUR STUPID LITTLE REVENGE!

SNIFF

YOU SAID YOU'RE JEALOUS-

YOU ALWAYS TREAT ME LIKE AN !DIOT!

LISTEN-

IT'S TRUE THAT YOU SAVED ME FROM THOSE DEBT COLLECTORS, BUT STILL!

I-

I DO!

UWAH

THAT'S NOT IT

YOU DON'T TREAT ME LIKE YOUR WIFE, RIGHT?

BECAUSE

I ALMOST D-DID IT WITH YAGAMI-KUN-

EH?

DIDN'T YOU HEAR FROM SOUMA-SAN——

He didn't?

Don't tell me...!

.. ..!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN

BY THAT?

CLATTER

IS THIS WHAT YOU MEAN

I'm scared...

WHEN YOU SAID YOU CAN RELAX AROUND HIM?

I'm scared...

I'm scared!

YAGAMI-KUN

And yet,

TOLD ME

THAT IF MY BOYFRIEND DOESN'T EVEN TRY TO EXPLAIN ANYTHING TO ME, THAT MEANS HE DOESN'T THINK ANYTHING OF ME.

HE ALSO SAID THAT IF YOU DON'T MAKE ANY EXCUSES ABOUT YOUR TWO-TIMING,

THAT MEANS YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ME AT ALL.

why am I trying to make him even more angry?

HOW STUPID.

DID YOU SERIOUSLY BELIEVE HIM?

BUT WHAT SHOULD I BELIEVE THEN?

THERE'S NOTHING I CAN RELY ON, RIGHT?

YOU JUST LIED TO ME AGAIN, TOO

THERE'S ONLY THAT SINGLE PIECE OF PAPER-

IT'S ONLY A PIECE OF PAPER,

BUT SINCE WE'VE MADE AN AGREEMENT WITH EACH OTHER,

YOU BELONG TO ME,

AND I TO YOU.

WHERE

YOU'RE LYING. NO!

I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT MUCH.

!

DID HE TOUCH YOU?

H-HE DIDN'T TOUCH ME AT ALL! HE WAS ONLY ABOUT TO KISS ME!

I WAS CARELESS

I THOUGHT THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY MAN WHO'D WANT TO MAKE A MOVE ON SOMEONE LIKE YOU

SHUT UP.

LIKE I SAID, I DIDN'T—

JERK

H-HOLD ON!

Ah.

No way. His fingers are inside my underwear...

No. This is too-

RING
RING
RING

FLINCH

RING
RING
RING

RING
RING
RING

RING
RING
RING

But...!

Why?

Ah, didn't
I just think,
"What a pity"?

What's
wrong
with me?

THUMP

HEY.

HELLO?

B--
BUT——

We haven't resolved anything yet!

JUST LEAVE FOR NOW.

I GOT AN IMPORTANT PHONE CALL.

EH?!

WHATEVER, JUST GET OUT OF HERE!

IF YOU'RE FINE WITH THAT,

I DON'T MIND CARRYING ON.

YOU LOOK LIKE

YOU'RE ABOUT TO BE RAPED.

EEEEEK

SLAM

AH! UH! I'M LEAVING! THEN...

BYE!

SIGH

WHY DID I HAVE TO LOSE MY COOL LIKE THAT?

Wah!

Uwah!

Mrs. President!

BOW

HOW UNSIGHTLY

His f-f-fingers were there!

You must be kidding me!

It's too sudden! My face is burning!

YOU HAVEN'T LEFT YET? IT'S LATE ALREADY.

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.

How can I even look at him from now on?

WHAM

ARGH...

UM. I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TODAY...

AH ..!

YAGAMI-KUN!

I-I'M SORRY.

I'M HAPPY THAT YOU FEEL THAT WAY, BUT RIGHT NOW —

I KNOW.

IT SEEMED LIKE I WAS TRYING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOU,

BUT THE TRUTH IS, I SOMEWHAT LOST MY CALM, KNOWING THAT TOMORROW IS THE LAST DAY OF MY TRAINING HERE.

Yagami-kun...

I MEAN, WHEN I ACCUSED YOUR BOY-FRIEND,

YOU SERIOUSLY SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE ABOUT TO CRY

NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, YOU STILL LOVE THAT COLD BOYFRIEND OF YOURS, RIGHT?

YOU DIDN'T LIKE BEING TWO-TIMED BY HIM, RIGHT?

It really kills me to do this right after getting my heart broken.

EH? HOLD ON.

LIKE I SAID, I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I LOVE HIM OR NOT —

AH, DO I HAVE TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO YOU?

YOU DON'T WANT SOME OTHER WOMAN TO TAKE HIM AWAY, RIGHT?

ISN'T THAT ENOUGH PROOF?

"Do you have any idea what you're saying?"

Ahh, I see.

Me?

In love with Hokuto?

Ah, OK

For now, just forgive and forget everyth ng. I'll be in your care again tomorrow.

I wasn't angry because he doesn't consider me his wife.

I just hated it.

In my heart, I just hated it.

Having my heart race when he kisses me,

feeling disappointed when we don't go all the way,

all of those things...

CHAPTER 3

In short, there's nothing to hinder us.

It's probably that as long as I wish for it, we can do it anytime.

What Yagami-kun doesn't know

is that Hokuto and I are already married.

But,

I LOVE HIM..

just by saying that out loud,

my body gets hot.

Really.

how am I supposed to face him and live with him from now on?

To be continued

6TH Step
Can I honestly ask him what he thinks about me?
ENJOUJI MAKI
Hapi Mari
~Happy Marriage!?~

THAT'S MY HAIR WAX.

moves Away

WHAT IS IT?

Normally.

It's your fault for leaving it all over the place!

!!

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU NOT TO PUT IT AWAY HERE?

I ALWAYS HAVE A HARD TIME TRYING TO FIND IT.

...

StoMP
StoMP
StoMP

I can't...

...look at him in the eyes!

Tap

Tap

WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE?!

SHE TREATS ME AS IF I'M A GERM!

But,
this is
definitely_

_not only
because

he
suddenly
did some-
thing like
that_

Something
like that...

"and
I to
you"

"You
belong
to me."

I can't
help thinking
about those
words.

Can
I take it
that he also
feels the same
way about
me?

Clatter

Squeeze

I'M SUCH A COWARD.

Clatter

Squeeze

If only I could ask him that... But I can't.

...OR WHAT?

ARE YOU A MIDDLE SCHOO-LER...

Noisy

Noisy

B-BUT THERE'S A REASON WHY I CAN'T ASK HIM.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HIM AND ME ISN'T ONE WHERE WE CAN JUST SAY GOODBYE TO EACH OTHER IF IT DOESN'T WORK OUT.

I DITCHED THE DRINKING INVITATION FROM MY SENIOR AT SALE TRAINING TO COME HERE WITH YOU, SO PLEASE TALK ABOUT SOMETHING THAT I CAN POSSIBLY GIVE YOU ADVICE ON.

I MEAN, IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE TO DO BUT TO ASK HIM CLEARLY?

Did you change your perso-nality?

YOU'RE SO HARSH, YAGAMI-KUN...

THAT'S WHY I FEEL LIKE I SHOULD JUST LET IT BE THE WAY IT IS RIGHT NOW WITHOUT ASKING HIM AND MESSING EVERYTHING UP.

MAYBE I WOULDN'T WORRY SO MUCH OVER SUCH A SMALL THING LIKE THIS IF I HAD MORE EXPERIENCE IN LOVE.

Noisy

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

Noisy

WELL, IT'S REALLY COMPLICATED.

HMM?

PLUCK

PLUCK

YOUR WIFE SEEMS TO BE GETTING ALONG VERY WELL WITH YAGAMI YUU.

Noisy

...

Noisy

DO YOU WANT TO PRACTICE WITH ME?

IT'S JUST A JOKE, SO PLEASE DON'T FREEZE UP LIKE THAT

I DON'T GET IT.

PLUCK

BUT IT APPEARS THAT SHE'S ASKING FOR HIS ADVICE ABOUT SOME-THING

IT'S TRUE THAT THERE'S NOTHING PARTICULAR BETWEEN THEM,

PLUCK

Sulk

IT'S YOUR FAULT...

...FOR NEGLECTING YOUR DUTY TO REPORT TO ME!

And now it's getting out of hand!

THAT GUY TRIED TO FORCE HIMSELF ON HER, DIDN'T HE?

PLUCK

PLUCK

LIKE I SAID, THAT MEANS WE'RE EVEN LESS RELIABLE THAN A GUY LIKE HIM.

THANKS TO A LIE A CERTAIN SOMEONE MADE UP ON A WHIM.

I'M JUST AN-NOYED.

PLUCK

PLUCK

TECHNICALLY, I HAVE TO FOLLOW ALL OF YOUR ORDERS TO A T.

PLUCK

I GOT IT AL-READY,

SO STOP TAKING IT OUT ON THE FLOWERS.

AND, OF ALL THINGS, SHE HAS TO RELY ON THAT YOUNGSTER.

BUT BECAUSE I RELAYED THAT MESSAGE TO YOUR WIFE, NOW SHE DOESN'T TRUST ME ANYMORE

PLUCK PLUCK

THAT ASIDE,

HERE IS THE SCHEDULE FOR YOUR BUSINESS TRIP NEXT WEEK. I JUST FINISHED IT A WHILE AGO.

THANKS

THE SECOND DAY OF YOUR TRIP WILL COINCIDE WITH YOUR WIFE'S BIRTHDAY

OH, MY!

I ONLY INTENDED TO PLUCK OFF THE WITHERED FLOWERS!

BUT I HAD THE FEELING

SHE FINALLY STARTED TO FEEL SOMETHING FOR ME

IF YOU THINK SHE'S FEELING SOMETHING FOR YOU NOW,

WHY DON'T YOU START TAKING HER SERIOUSLY SOMETIME SOON?

Smiles

WHAT—

IF YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING AND LEAVE YOUR WIFE ALONE,

AND WHILE YOU'RE GONE, YAGAMI-SAN MAKES A MOVE ON HER, WOULDN'T THAT HURT YOUR REPUTATION?

ARE YOU TELLING ME TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE?

...

You can tell the driver where your house is, right? You'll be fine on your own, right?

China, meanwhile...

Please walk on your own!

Her reaction, that is

...

BUT NOT AS MUCH AS I ADORE YOU, PRESIDENT.

YES, BECAUSE SHE'S VERY ADORABLE.

YOU'RE WAY TOO FOND OF HER.

GLOW

URGH. I-I'M HOME...

YOU'RE LATE.

WHY ARE YOU STINKING OF ALCOHOL?

Got sober in an instant.

.....
.....
.....
!!!

why can I only speak to him this way?

GOOD NIGH—

HOLD ON

WE NEED TO TALK.

I'M NOZ CAUZING TROUBLEZ FOR ANYONE, ANYWAY.

I-IT DOEZN'T MATTERZ, RIGHT?

Ahh,

Then I won't be able to see him for a while.

OH.. I SEE...

It feels lonely, but I'm also somewhat relieved.

I wonder why...

SO

STARTING NEXT TUESDAY, I'LL BE GONE FOR A ONE-WEEK BUSINESS TRIP.

ON THE DAY BEFORE I LEAVE,

I'LL CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY WITH YOU.

Eh? What?

Pat Pat

O-OK

OK?

IT'S NEXT WEEK, RIGHT?

CLEAR YOUR SCHEDULE FOR THAT NIGHT.

HUH?

U-UM.

I'm really happy, but why?

Why is he doing this for me?

AH... WAIT!

WHAT?

OK YOU SHOULD GO TO SLEEP SOON.

DON'T DIE IN THE BATHROOM.

N-NO-- THING. GOOD NIGHT.

But I can't ask him that.

I'm scared

W-w-what should I do?

What is he doing?

What-

No, I mean, he's going to celebrate it? For me?!

U-um...

He knows when my birthday is...

Finally, we're going to...?!

Nosebleed

Don't tell me...

LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN QUIT BEING A MIDDLE SCHOOLER NOW.

HMPH GOOD FOR YOU.

Noisy

I THINK YOU'RE STILL HIS FAVORITE, THOUGH, RATHER THAN THE OTHER GIRL HE TWO-TIMED YOU WITH.

Noisy

WELL, YOU HAVE TO TREAD CAREFULLY THERE.

Noisy

BUT, IN THE END, I STILL HAVEN'T ASKED HIM THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION.

CAN YOU HELP ME...

.. CHOOSE A PAIR OF UNDERWEAR?

THE END

Noisy

Noisy

I--IS THERE ANYTHING I SHOULD KEEP IN MIND?

AH, YOU JUST NEED TO PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR UNDERWEAR

Speaking whatever comes to his mind.

I HAVE TO GO TO WORK EARLY TOMORROW, SO I'M LEAVING NOW

AH! YAGAMI-KUN!

TONIGHT'S DINNER IS YOUR TREAT, RIGHT? TAKANASHI-SAN

ABSO-LUTELY NOT!

ANYWAY, I DON'T WANT TO DO THAT!

B-BUT I THOUGHT IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO ASK FOR A GUY'S OPINION—

I MEAN, NO MATTER HOW NAÏVE YOU ARE, ...TRY TO THINK OF ME A LITTLE BIT!

ARE YOU STUPID OR WHAT?!

Noisy

Cafeteria

Noisy

Noisy

C-

WHAT?

I WANT TO ASK YOU TWO... A FAVOR.

AYA,

SAYA-KA .

YOU'RE GOING TO DO IT WITH YAGAMI-KUN?

AH, NOPE, DEFINITELY NOT.

Whispey

YOU'RE TOO LOUD!

D-DON'T TELL ME...

Whispey

CHOOSE YOUR LUCKY UNDER-WEAR?!

WE'LL SET UP FOR YOU...

DON'T WORRY! JUST LEAVE IT TO US!

HOW CAN THAT BE POSSIBLE? WE JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE,

BUT OF COURSE

BUT YOU'RE FINALLY REACHING THIS PHASE, TAKANASHI...

... Moved

A SUPER SEXY AND FANCY NIGHT!

THEY'RE SO HYPED UP

I have a bad feeling about this.

THIS IS JUST NORMAL.

THIS IS NORMAL?!

ISN'T THE AREA COVERED WAY TOO SMALL?!

THIS..

IS A BIT .

. ..

NOW I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT I'M TRYING TO DO

ANYWAY, WE DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF GUY HE IS.

Urgh

THEN HOW ABOUT THIS?

OR THIS?

THESE CAN'T EVEN FUNCTION AS UNDERWEAR ANYMORE!

URGH

LIKE, WHAT KIND OF THING MIGHT HE LIKE?

YEAH

UM.

HE'S SOME-ONE...

..LIKE OUR PRE-SIDENT...

HA HA HA

It's bad for his health.

Maybe he's really busy with work right now.

H-HE'S SLEEPING LOOKS LIKE HE WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF WORKING, THOUGH

Zzz

Say,

is it OK for me to get my hopes up?

And yet, he's setting aside time for me!

Clench

Z

This is the first time...

...I've seen him sleeping.

Even though we're husband and wife, we've never slept together.

...to be married to the one you love, isn't it?

it's really an amazing thing...

What you said about you belonging to me,

and everything you've done for me,

and that you're working hard to set out time for my birthday...

Now that I think about it,

There's no one or nothing between us.

As long as I reach out my hand,

he's always-

Always-

SNAPS

OPEN

MOVES BACK

THAT'S ALL!

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT CATCH A COLD, SO I WAS ABOUT TO PUT IT ON FOR YOU ..

A . HAHA THE BLANKET...

and he almost did something even more than that...

Well, he's already kissed me a few times,

Se rious-ly?

Did he?!

Did he find out?!

Ah.

Now I finally understand what Hokuto's words meant back then.

I did it myself! How embar-rassing!

But this time, I did it!

Wah

※ Meanwhile.

... ..

...by the time when I want to become a woman.

So this is what he meant...

I'LL PRETEND .

..I DIDN'T SEE THAT

Ructle

Oh, boy.

AH, CRAP.

I LEFT THE BAG WITH THE UNDERWEAR I JUST BOUGHT THERE!

Shoot!

JEEZ!

WHY DID MY BOSS HAVE TO ASK ME TO DO SOME EXTRA WORK TODAY, OF ALL DAYS?!

HUFF

YOU'RE LATE!

TEN MINUTES LATE!

WAH, I'M SORRY!

OH, WELL,

I WON'T SCOLD YOU TODAY.

Hokuto!

A-ARE YOU SLEEPY?

yawn

Click

COME ON.

MY WIFE

YEAH

Y-YOUR CAR TODAY ISN'T THE USUAL ONE.

I-I'M JUST NERVOUS! SINCE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE DONE SOMETHING LIKE THIS!

I SEE

HMM?

YOU LOOK KIND OF FLUSHED

EH? R-REALLY?!

THUMP

But it's also true that my heart feels like it can jump out of my chest any time now.

.....

Cuis me Francaise

Joel Vibert

TOKYO

THOUGHT SO

I'LL HAVE THE USUAL APERITIF.

RIGHT AWAY, SIR.

What's this Ape-some-thing?

S-SORRY.

I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO READ THE NAMES WRITTEN IN THE MENU...

THERE WERE SOME THINGS I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF BEFORE I LEAVE ON MY BUSI-NESS TRIP.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

B-BUT-

URGH... I CAN FEEL THE DISPARITY BETWEEN US

B-BY THE WAY,

YOU'RE REALLY BUSY WITH WORK RIGHT NOW, RIGHT? YOU SEEMED QUITE SWAMPED THE OTHER DAY.

AHH.

THANKS A LOT FOR TODAY.

I'M REALLY HAPPY...

YOUR FACE IS RED.

FEELING SHY?

But...

Ehh?! We're drinking alcohol, first thing first?!

LET'S TOAST. THEN,

But...

He's going out of his way to...

Will I be all right?

A- ACTUALLY, THAT'S TRUE...

EH?! AHA.

THUMP

HERE IS YOUR APERITIF.

I can't taste anything.

I can't hold on anymore. My fever-

THE BEEF FILLET HERE-

THUMP

YOU HAVE SAUCE.

On your face.

!!!

T-THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK YOU, HOKUTO

WHAT IS IT?

IT'S ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID THE OTHER DAY.

THE OTHER DAY?

AH,

D-DO YOU ALWAYS TOUCH OTHER WOMEN THAT CASUALLY, TOO?

HUH?

WHY?

LIKE I SAID,

CAN YOU CASUALLY TOUCH...

Wah! Idiot! What am I asking him?!

Lick

T-that surprised me!

Huh?

..JUST ABOUT ANYONE?

OR IF IT'S ONLY FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL TO YOU?

AND WHICH ONE AM I TO YOU?

Hold on.

I don't want to beat around the bush like this...

WELL, YOU'RE MY WIFE.

That's why

What I want to know...

WHAT IS IT?

DON'T TELL ME, YOU SERIOUSLY BELIEVED IN WHAT WAS WRITTEN IN THAT ARTICLE?

THAT'S NOT IT

...as much as I want you.

I...

...is whether or not you also want me...!

I'll redo this.

OK, GOT I—

YOU CAN'T HANDLE WINE?

Clatter

SORRY, I'M GOING TO THE REST-ROOM.

YOUR FACE IS REALLY RED.

ARE YOU OK? ARE YOU DRUNK?

CHIWA ?!

TODAY, YOU WENT OUT OF YOUR WAY...

Pant

Pant

Pant

SHE'S SO HOT...

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME--

T--

...TO DO THIS FOR ME...

TELL ME

SAY.. HOKUTO...

THAT TIME, WHEN YOU SAID

YOU BELONG TO ME.

IS IT OK FOR ME TO BELIEVE YOU?

I-

Before I could hear his reply,

I lost consciousness.

Beep

Beep

Beep

What happened after that?

An intravenous drip.

Um...

Where am I?

Where's Hokuto?

SHE HAD A HIGH FEVER I THINK SHE HAS A COLD. PLEASE TELL HER TO HAVE SOME REST.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE TIED TO ONE WOMAN ONLY FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.

ANYWAY,

ARE YOU STUPID OR WHAT? GETTING MARRIED FOR A REASON LIKE THAT!

WELL, I DON'T MIND IT EVEN IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND IT, KATAGIRI-SENPAI

He seems close to that person...

W-who is he talking to?

BUT IN ANY CASE, YOU TWO ARE JUST HUSBAND AND WIFE IN NAME, RIGHT?

Ah, I knew it.

AT LEAST, NOT FOR ME.

NO, NOT REALLY.

Thanks for the tea

YOU BOTH HAVE YOUR OWN OUTSIDE LOVERS.

Phew

Creak

Anyway, if not for this, I'd still be worried about that now.

S-SERIOUSLY?!

THEN IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT YOUR WIFE HASN'T-

WHO KNOWS? I'VE NEVER DONE IT WITH HER, SO I'M NOT SURE.

BUT I'M NOT INTERESTED IN DOING IT WITH SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T EVEN LIKE ME.

...

Ahh.

I feel like my fever has gone down.

Can we still...

...continue our dinner?

ARE YOU SANE? ARE YOU STILL SANE?! MAYBE YOU SHOULD HAVE A HEALTH CHECKUP?!

I'M STILL SANE. VERY MUCH SO.

WHAT KIND OF ABSTINENCE IS THAT?

Urgh

T-THAT'S NOT TRUE I'VE ALREADY FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOU, HOKUTO

I MARRIED HER BECAUSE IT'S NECESSARY

FOR MY GOAL.

I MUST CONTINUE TO BE THE PRESIDENT OF MAMIYA.

IN ORDER TO DO THAT, NO MATTER HOW STUPID IT IS, I MUST KEEP UP WITH THIS MARRIAGE.

IT'S NO BIG DEAL NOT TO HAVE AN EXTRAMARITAL AFFAIR

IF ANYTHING WERE TO HAPPEN... I'LL DEFINITELY BE THE ONE TO BLAME.

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING FOR THE THING YOU WANT, HUH?

SO IT'S NOT LIKE YOU WERE WARMED UP BY HER FEELINGS FOR YOU

AND TURNED INTO A FAITHFUL HUSBAND TO KEEP YOUR MARRIAGE SAFE, HUH?

What did he... just say?

AHH, I SEE

YEAH, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN THAT KIND OF GUY.

Then...

SURE, BUT YOU SHOULD CALL AN AMBULANCE IF THIS HAPPENS AGAIN.

ANYWAY, I'M GLAD THAT YOUR CLINIC WAS NEARBY, SENPAI

Ne

way

Now that I think about it, ever since the beginning,

Every-thing...!

That time,

and those words,

No way...

"I also have things I can't give up."

and that kiss...

he already made himself clear.

...to uphold this contract.

It's simply that nothing has changed.

He only deceived me...

"You belong to me,"

"and I, to you."

But,

I just want to disappear to somewhere, along with this feeling in my heart.

Happy Marriage?

To be continued

THE LOVE-CONFLICT DEVELOPMENT! NOW IN FORTY-TWO PAGES WITH COLOR OPENING
It's no big deal not to have an extramarital affair.
If anything were to happen... I'll definitely be the one to blame.
Hapi Mari

7th Step

Hapi Maki

Cleaned by Kurai

STARTLE
TAKA-NASHI!
GOOD MORNING! YOU SURE TOOK A LONG BREAK!
THE FLU? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT NOW?
THANKS, I'M FINE NOW.
WELL? WELL? HOW DID IT GO?
DID THE UNDER-GARMENTS WORK?
WELL.
IT WAS ALL RIGHT...
Fat lie.
COME ON, BE A LITTLE MORE THANKFUL!
IT'LL BE YOUR TREAT NEXT TIME WE GO OUT!

I can't tell them what really happened...
BUT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE LIKE TAKANASHI IS AHEAD OF US IN THAT DEPARTMENT!
TELL US ALL THE DETAILS LATER!
I HAVE A LOT OF WORK PILING UP, SO I HAVE TO GET GOING.
YES, YES ..
AH...
HERE IT IS, IN THE OLDER ISSUES..
Up until recently,
I knew nothing about Hokuto as a president.
flip

"In the business world, it's a taboo to aspire too much after business tactics and strategies.
I believe that the only true route to success is being certain in what you really have on your hands, utilizing your potential to the maximum, and eliminating as many uncertain or unnecessary elements as possible."
"Regarding the qualifications of a good manager? A company has no future if the people work less once they get closer to the top. Nobody would follow a leader who doesn't work hard—"
Realist. Cool-headed. Second or third generation in the business. Serious.
What is the thing he wants to protect so much that he'd go to such lengths?
What does he truly want...?
And someone like him succumbed to such a marriage.

"By analyzing information and research, you learn exactly how the pawn that you are works. And then you can venture into any kind of competition—"
PAWN
He sees himself as a pawn and looks at others the same way.
And me, too... I'm one of the many pawns
Just a pawn. Definitely not a "wife."
AH!
TAKANASHI-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AH YES, I GUESS.
DIDN'T YOU TAKE A RATHER LONG BREAK?
ABOUT BEFORE,
WHAT HAPPENED? TELL ME THE DETAILS, ALL RIGHT?
EHM
I WAS WORRIED, YOU KNOW!
See you later!

All because I kept dreaming about a certain man.
You reap what you sow.
I'll be a laughing stock.
Yes, yes...
!
TAKA-NASHI?!
AREN'T YOU TAKANASHI?!
What kind of lies do I have to make up now to hide it from everyone?
But there's still a part of me who doesn't hate him. Unconsciously, I was sure everything with Hokuto would go well.
wobble
SIGH,
I DON'T WANT TO GO TO WORK ANYMORE .
YE—
I KNEW IT, IT'S YOU!
What is it this time—
EH...?

LONG TIME NO SEE!
DO YOU REMEMBER ME?
SAKURABA-SENPAI?!
GREAT, YOU REMEMBER ME!
WORK!
Here, my business card
BUT WHAT A SURPRISE!
I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE HERE, TAKANASHI!
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY ARE YOU IN THIS COMPANY?

Wow.
I WAS WONDERING WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING SINCE WE LAST MET...
AH, I'D REALLY LIKE TO TAKE MY TIME AND TALK WITH YOU, BUT I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME.
ARE YOU FREE TONIGHT?
EH?!
IF YOU WANT TO, WE CAN TALK IN PEACE THEN. IT'S BEEN SO LONG, AFTER ALL.
EHM... I
Hokuto is...
...not home yet, so maybe it's all right if I...
WELL?
YES, I'LL COME YES
WELL THEN,
CALL ME USING THE NUMBER ON THE BUSINESS CARD!
Sakuraba...
...was my senpai for some time while I was at my university.
See you again!

We met [redacted] I entered...
Twenty one years old.
When I was a freshman, he was in his fourth year.
I'M FROM THE ASTRONOMY CLUB!
WE'RE GOING TO THE PLANETARIUM TODAY, SO COME SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE!
Join the tennis club!
I had no interest whatsoever in stars, but I still went,
because he was so cool.
We have a live performance today!
ALL RIGHT!
LET'S MAKE TONIGHT A MEMORABLE NIGHT!
I can't believe we met again like this.
And he even remembered me.

SWI
TCH
throw
HM?
WHAT,
SHE'S NOT HOME, YET?

WHY IS THE LIGHT ON
CLICK
HM?
Don't tell me...!
...!
W-why is he home?!
...!
Wasn't he supposed to come back tomorrow?!

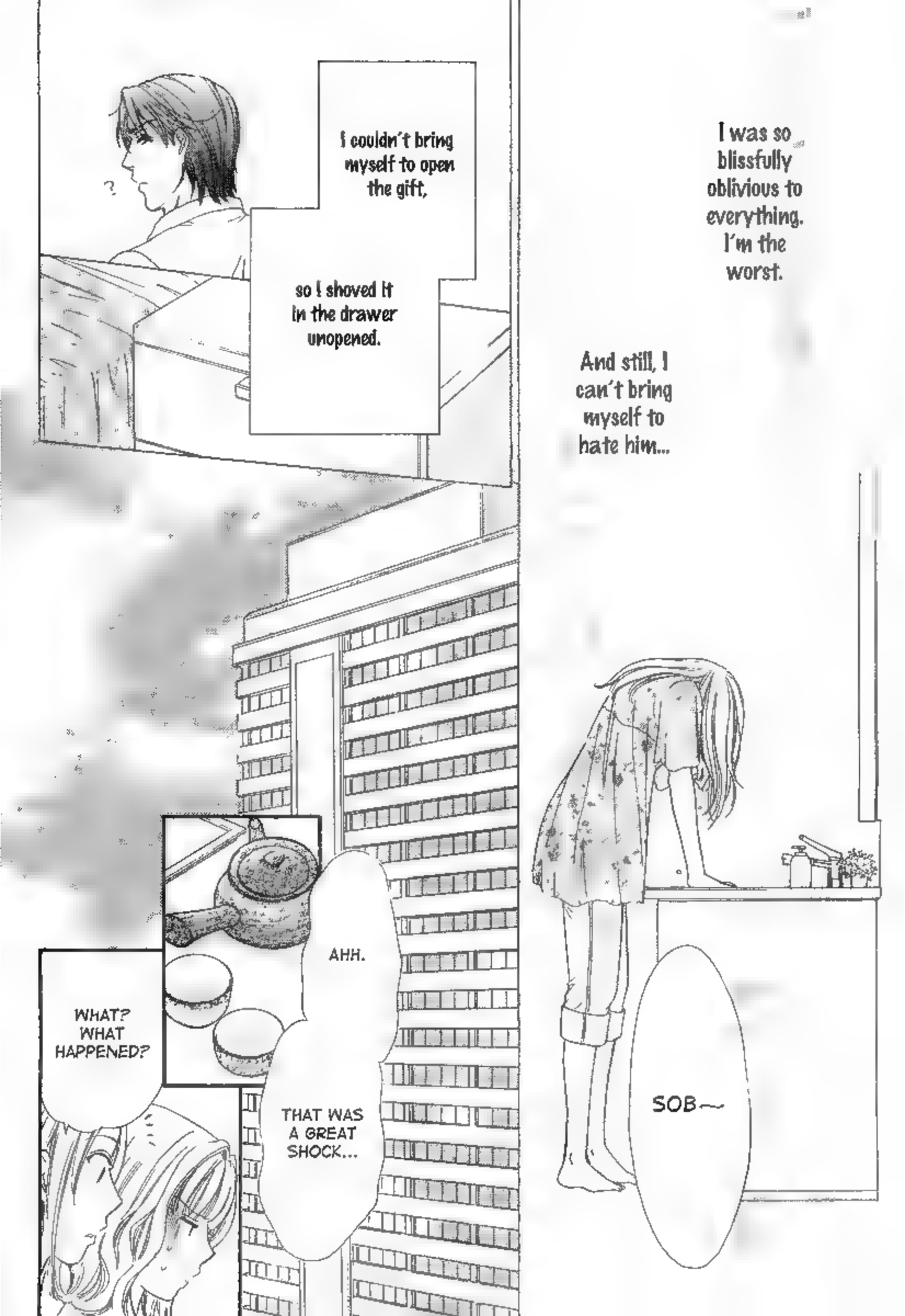
HEY!
Give me a break! What kind of attitude should I assume when he sees me?!
EH... YES, THAT'S RIGHT...
YOU'RE HOME EARLY, AREN'T YOU ?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING AGAIN?

THIS.
EH?
I had no time to prepare...
WHY DIDN'T YOU OPEN IT?
IT'S A BIRTHDAY PRESENT.
!!!
Oh, no!
I planned to take care of that before he returned tomorrow!
THE MORNING I LEFT ON THE BUSINESS TRIP,
YOU WERE STILL SICK AND SLEEPING, SO I LEFT IT IN THE DINING ROOM.
WHY IS IT EXACTLY WHERE I LEFT IT THAT DAY?

WELL....
Because I didn't want to open it.
But how can I possibly explain that?!
I'm not who I used to be a few days ago.
I'm not!
I...
I DIDN'T RECEIVE IT DIRECTLY FROM YOU...
IT WAS THE LEAST YOU COULD DO.
It hurts...
But I can't think of another excuse.
WHAT THE..

IF THAT'S ALL, THEN—
HERE.
flop
Who gives a birthday present with "here"?!
?
FROZEN STIFF
What am I, a dog?!
Ah..
"You're all bark and no bite."
"Like a Chihuahua."

THANKS
NO PROB—
I should've noticed right from the start, that to him,
I'm an idiot on the same level as a dog.
I NEED TO USE IT, SO LEAVE ME ALONE!
THE TOILET—
I'm so miserable.


I couldn't bring myself to open the gift,
so I shoved it in the drawer unopened.
I was so blissfully oblivious to everything. I'm the worst.
And still, I can't bring myself to hate him...
SOB—
AHH.
THAT WAS A GREAT SHOCK...
WHAT? WHAT HAPPENED?

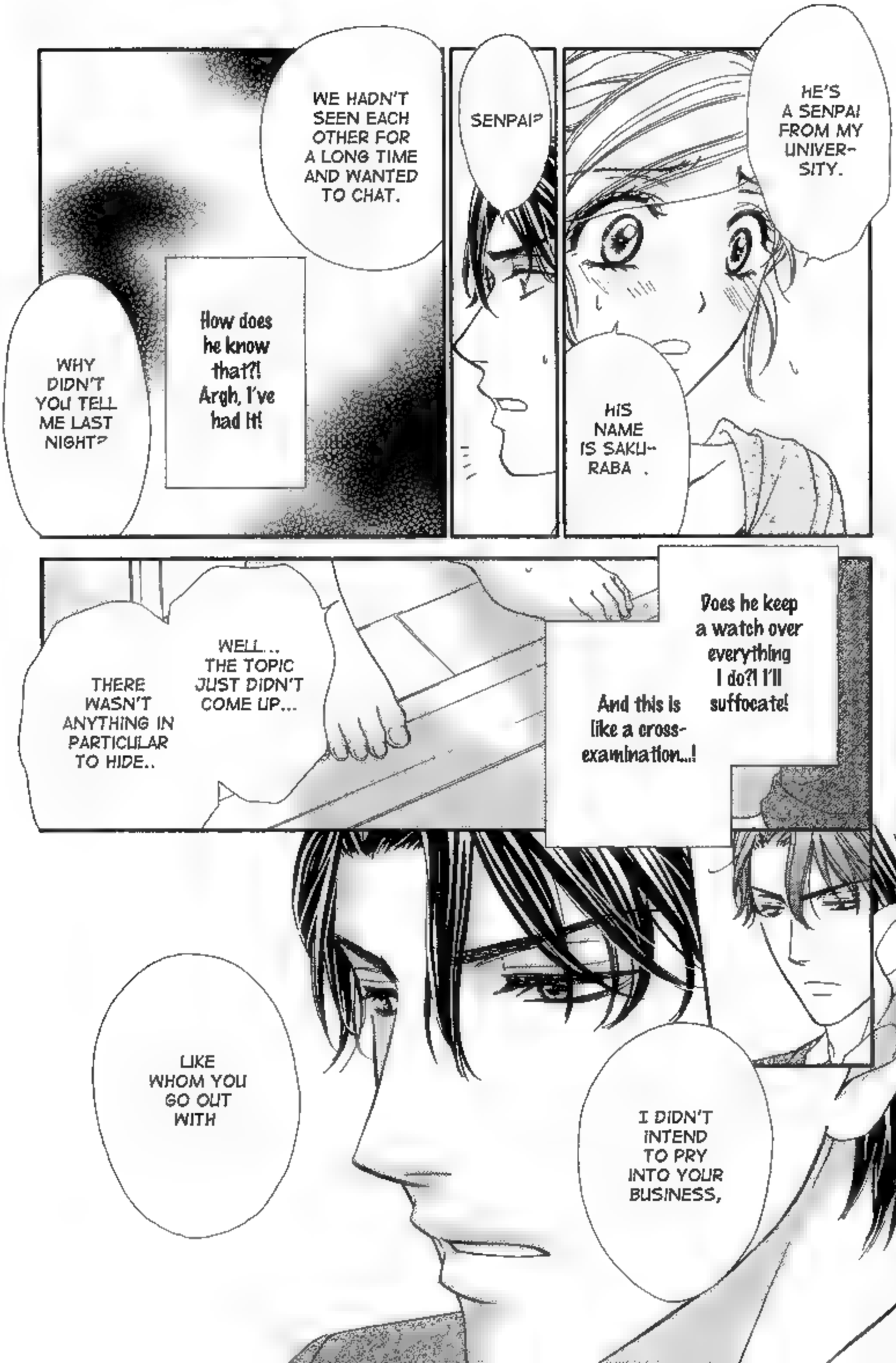
LAST NIGHT, YOU KNOW,
I SAW TAKANASHI AND HER BOYFRIEND.
YOU DID?!
WELL?! WHAT'S HE LIKE?!
UNBE-LIEVABLY COOL.
NOT AS COOL AS THE PRESIDENT, THOUGH
SERI-OUSLY!
SERI-OUSLY...?
WE REALLY UNDER-ESTIMATED HER!
PRESIDENT
SHE WAS WITH AN UNKNOWN MAN LAST NIGHT?
SHE WAS?
WHERE DID SHE FIND SUCH A GEM...?
MAYBE WE SHOULD START GOING TO GROUP DATES AGAIN?
SAYAKA-SAN, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU JUST SAID THAT!

AND IT WASN'T THAT GUY YAGAMI?
NO IT WASN'T
HEH
SEE WHAT YOU CAN FIND ABOUT H.M—
I REFUSE.
MAYBE YOUR WIFE HAPPENS TO HAVE MORE MALE FRIENDS.
THAN YOU THOUGHT, PRESIDENT.
IT'S HIGH TIME YOU STARTED COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR WIFE DIRECTLY ABOUT SUCH THINGS.
THAT'S AS MUCH INFORMATION AS I CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH.
R-REFUSE?

BESIDES, THE HEART OF A WOMAN CHANGES MUCH FASTER THAN MEN THINK.
THE HEART WHICH USED TO BEAT ONLY FOR YOU UNTIL YESTERDAY MIGHT TURN TOWARDS SOMEONE ELSE TODAY.
SOUMA.
I'M SAYING THIS FOR YOUR SAKE, PRESIDENT.
SO THAT THIS...
...DOESN'T BECOME THE FIRST FAILURE IN YOUR LIFE.

...
SULK
IF SHE'S HOME ALREADY,
PISSED OFF
PISSED OFF
WHY IS THE WHOLE HOUSE PITCH-DARK?!
STOMP
STOMP
"You're late again. I'm going to bed first."
"What, I'm on a diet!"
DAMN!
PISSED OFF
PISSED OFF

KNOCK
KNOCK
IT'S ME!
WE HAVE TO TALK. COME OUT
SHOCK
T-talk?
About what?
thump thump
I want to avoid looking at him in the eyes as much as possible...
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
OPEN
LAST NIGHT.
WHO'S THE MAN YOU WENT OUT TO DRINK WITH?
EH.. ?
IT WASN'T YAGAMI, SO WHO WAS IT?


WE HADN'T SEEN EACH OTHER FOR A LONG TIME AND WANTED TO CHAT.
How does he know that?! Argh, I've had it!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME LAST NIGHT?
SENPAI?
HE'S A SENPAI FROM MY UNIVER-SITY.
HIS NAME IS SAKU-RABA .
WELL... THE TOPIC JUST DIDN'T COME UP...
THERE WASN'T ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR TO HIDE..
Does he keep a watch over everything I do?! I'll suffocate!
And this is like a cross-examination...!
LIKE WHOM YOU GO OUT WITH
I DIDN'T INTEND TO PRY INTO YOUR BUSINESS,

BUT DON'T YOU DARE DO...
...WHAT PEOPLE CALL "INFIDELITY," WIFE.
What are you talking about?!
"Infidelity"! "Betray"! There's nothing like—
I THOUGHT I HAD DRIVEN THAT INTO YOUR HEAD, BUT YOU'RE A WEIRD ONE

Such things...
...exist only between a husband and wife who loved each other to begin with!
OF COURSE I KNOW ALL THAT!
THAT'S WHAT OUR CONTRACT IS!!!
SHO
YOU'RE .
WEIRDER THAN I TH—
WHO'S WEIRD?!
VE
IF YOU HAVE TIME TO BUG ME,
WHY DON'T YOU GO TO BED ALREADY?!
YOU'RE TIRED, RIGHT?!

BA
WAIT A—
GOOD NIGHT!!!
NG
Go away already...
Hurry...

Ah, Takanashi? It's me
YES. ?
RIIING
Hurry!
Thanks for yesterday! It was great I'm glad we got in touch again.
Saku-raba-senpai!
RIIING
I have something I want to tell you .
Do you think you can make t?
BUT WHY ARE YOU CALLING AT SUCH AN HOUR?
NO I MEAN, IT WAS MY PLEASURE!
YES, IT'S NO PROBLEM!
We l, then
Senpai...
Ah Wel, I thought you m ght have some free time to night, too, Taka nashi
Hm? Isn't your vo ce a ittle strange? Are you a l right?
IT'S NOTHING! I'M ALL RIGHT!

There's something I didn't tell you
BEEP
It seems that I'll never be a real woman...

Will this drag on for the rest of my life?
No, I don't want that to happen.
I don't...
SORRY, SORRY!
I'M REALLY LATE!

SENPAI,
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TELL ME?
LET'S GO GRAB A BITE SOMEWHERE AND WE'LL TALK.
MY FAVORITE PLACE IS NEARBY.
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
HM?
WHY ARE YOU DRESSED SO FORMALLY?
THIS IS HOW I USUALLY AM!
TODAY I CAME STRAIGHT FROM WORK, SO I'M IN MY BUSINESS SUIT!
Wow
SIZZLE
YOU THINK SO? REALLY?
SENPAI.
YOU WERE ALWAYS VERY GOOD AT COOKING SUCH THINGS...

I'm sure Hokuto has never been in a place like this.
Or maybe,
he hasn't even seen this type of food before.
People really eat this?!
AH, YEAH!
SPEAKING OF COOKING,
I REMEMBER THE INCIDENT AT THAT FRESHMEN'S WELCOME PARTY IN MAY...
EH... EHM .
I HAD NEVER EATEN OKONOMI-YAKI* UNTIL THEN AND... HEHE...
DELICIOUS!
IT'S SO TASTY!
I'VE NEVER EATEN ANYTHING BETTER!
REALLY?
It's just plain okonomiyaki.
YOU LEARNED A LOT ABOUT STARS FOR THE SAKE OF THE CLUB, RIGHT, TAKANASHI?
I REMEMBER THINKING HOW SERIOUS YOU WERE ABOUT IT
YEAH.
THAT'S SUPIKA, RIGHT?
LOOKS LIKE IT!
YOU CAN SAY I REMEMBER QUITE A LOT ABOUT YOU, DON'T I?
YOU LEFT A DEEP IMPRESSION ON ME
Sakuraba-senpai...

*NOTE. OKONOMIYAKI IS A JAPANESE SAVORY PANCAKE MADE OF CABBAGE, NOODLES, MEAT AND WHATNOT. ;)

WELL. WELL, THERE WERE MANY REASONS.
HM? ULTERIOR MOTIVES? LIKE WHAT?
I COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH YOU UNLESS I STUDIED A LOT. BESIDES, I WASN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW A LOT ABOUT STARS.
AND MY MOTIVES FOR ENTERING THE CLUB WEREN'T ENTIRELY PURE
IT WAS TOO BAD I COULDN'T MAKE IT TO THE SUMMER PARTY, THOUGH I WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO IT
SO DID I!!!
IT WAS BECAUSE SOMETHING HAPPENED TO MY FATHER; I DIDN'T WANT TO QUIT SCHOOL, TOO!
Here, have some more.
AND SENPAI, YOU WERE BUSY LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT, WASN'T HAVING A PARTY TOO MUCH FOR YOU?
NO, I WAS ALREADY ACCEPTED IN THE COMPANY I CURRENTLY WORK AT
AND SPEAKING OF WHICH, I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THAT COMPANY...

TAKANASHI...
...WON'T YOU QUIT YOUR COMPANY AND COME WORK IN MINE?
WHA...?
EH...?

SNAP
I THINK I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU ABOUT THE COMPANY, RIGHT?
IT'S A JOINT VENTURE AND I'M ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE FOUNDATION BOARD.
Wha... What? What?!
That was way too sudden!
WELL, I CAN'T FORCE YOU.
I'M NOT REALLY--
BUT ARE WHY YOU TELLING ME THIS?!
WE'RE SHORT ON CAPABLE PEOPLE
ONE OF OUR EMPLOYEES SUDDENLY GOT PREGNANT AND HAD TO LEAVE WORK IN A HURRY AND GET MARRIED
BUT TAKANASHI,
AREN'T YOU JUST BEATING YOURSELF AGAINST A WALL THESE DAYS?
PAIN
Feel at home...
IF YOU FEEL MOTIVATED TO WORK FOR YOUR CURRENT COMPANY AND FEEL AT HOME THERE, THEN THERE'S NO HELPING IT, BUT...
EH.. ?

WHEN I MET YOU, IT FELT LIKE YOU WERE TROUBLED ABOUT SOMETHING,
AS IF... YOU FELT USELESS, LOOKING FOR A WAY OUT... OR SO I THOUGHT.
MAYBE IT'S JUST A GROUNDLESS FEELING I GOT.
I... I SEE...
BUT IF I HAPPENED TO HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD,
THEN I THINK THE REASON IS IN YOUR COMPANY.
He's sharp!
Or maybe I was more transparent than I thought...
But...
BUT TO BE HONEST, MY COMPANY IS NOT AS SECURE AS MAMIYA.
EVEN SO, WE DON'T KEEP ANY PAWNS IN THE GAME IF THEY ARE USELESS.
Pawn...
IT'S A SMALL ESTABLISHMENT, SO EVERYONE HAS TO WORK HARD.
THUS, WE'RE VERY BUSY.

At that moment, I felt that in the wall standing in my way,
there appeared a little crack.
I'M SURE YOU CAN DO IT, TAKANASHI.
BUT YOU CAN BE SURE THAT IT'S A JOB WORTH DOING.
AH!
AND I THINK WE CAN OFFER YOU MORE MONEY THAN YOU GET NOW, TOO!
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A PERSON WHO WORKS VERY HARD.
I THINK IT WILL HELP YOU RAISE YOUR SKILLS. YOU WILL LEARN TO DO EVERYTHING ON YOUR OWN, WITHOUT HELP

But if I can manage to pull one of those things
things will change, won't they?
...is the fact that my work and my future, even my love, are all in the palm of Hakuto's hand.

AH!
TAKE YOUR TIME AND THINK IT OVER.
I'M NOT TELLING YOU TO ANSWER RIGHT NOW
NO NEED TO!
BUT WE'RE REALLY SHORT ON PEOPLE,
SO WE CAN'T AFFORD TO WAIT FOREVER, AND—
I.. I WILL THINK ABOUT IT... POSITIVELY... I MEAN ..
WHAT I REALLY WANT TO SAY IS THAT I...
I will change. Just watch me.

Letter of Resignation
ALL RIGHT..
THE DRAFT IS READY

I want Hokuto to look carefully at the person that I am.
SHE HAS CLOSED HERSELF IN HER ROOM
HEY
Just watch me break out of here. Out of THIS place.
To be continued

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LACAILLE-SAMA! DO YOU WANT TO JOIN ME FOR TONIGHT!? I'LL GIVE YOU A BIG PRESENT! :D
FROM RURIKA

ENJOUJI MAKI

I want to be even with Hokuto. That's why I made up my mind to change my job. Now all I have to do is get my letter of resignation approved...

TYRANT? EGOIST? SADIST?

He's certainly a man of many charms.

8th Step

Can I trust your heart?

HAPI MARI

~ Happy Marriage?! ~

President

WHAT IS THIS?

Letter of Resignation

CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

Letter of Resignation

DO YOU PLAN TO QUIT HERE AND BECOME A STAY-AT-HOME HOUSEWIFE?

I met a senpai from the university a while ago.

GULK

HOW COME THIS CAME TO YOU BEFORE NOON

WHEN I SUBMITTED IT ONLY THIS MORNING...?

I expected this, but...

WON'T YOU COME TO WORK FOR ME?

He is called Sakuraba and managed to see through the problems I was hiding in my heart...

The way things are now, Hokuto rules over me completely.

I thought that I want to break this wall.

I WANT TO CHANGE MY JOB

I ALREADY FOUND ANOTHER PLACE TO WORK.

SO YOU WANT TO ANNUL OUR MARRIAGE?

I HAVEN'T SAID THAT!

AND I'M NOT DOING IT BECAUSE I WANT ANOTHER BOSS.

AND I WANT TO START REPAYING YOU THE MONEY YOU PAID FOR THAT DEBT IN MY PLACE.

I JUST THINK IT WILL BE BETTER FOR MY CAREER.

ABSOLUTELY NOT.

WAIT A MINUTE, YOU CAN'T DECIDE THIS JUST LIKE THAT...!

AT LEAST HEAR ME OUT!

SOUMA?

YES, YOU CAN COME IN NOW.

THE QUESTION IS CLOSED FOR DISCUSSION

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS LETTER OF RESIGNATION.

WHAT ..?

CREAK

REA-SON?

I HAVE A REASON.

YOU BELONG TO ME.

WHY DID YOU REJECT IT?! AT LEAST TELL ME THE REASON!

CLOSE

EH?

ENOUGH...

I HATE YOU, HOKUTO...

BOSS

I get it already, Hokuto.

I already figured that out.

But they come from his obstinacy and pride.

"You belong to me."

I would've been happy to hear those words until recently.

ABSO-LUTELY NOT

But I have obstinacy and pride, too!

YOU WERE ALWAYS A PERSON WHO WORKS HARD

He'll never recognize and appreciate me.

Why didn't I understand it before?

CONTINUING TO BE ABSENT FROM WORK AND

AIMING TO BE FIRED IS NOT AN OPTION

Help me, Sakuraba-senpai!

YOUR LETTER OF RESIGNATION WAS REJECTED...

I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED, BUT ..

MAYBE

YOU'VE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH SOME VERY IMPORTANT JOB THAT THEY CAN'T HAVE YOU QUIT RIGHT NOW?

N-NO SUCH THING! NO, ABSOLUTELY NOT!

I SEE

AND I WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU.

BUT ..

IT WILL LEAVE A VERY BAD SCAR ON YOUR CV

THEN, CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT MY JOB WILL BE WHEN I MANAGE TO COME? I WANT TO STUDY FOR IT.

OH, YOU'RE REALLY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IT.

Yes, yes, that's it...

HM?

WERE YOU REALLY?

OF COURSE. WHY DO YOU EVEN ASK?

THEN...

That's how people usually cheer others up and try to encourage them, even if they don't really mean it.

But you can't even hold a civil conversation with that man.

He thinks of me as the lowest life form on Earth, damn him...

SO NEXT TIME, I'LL BRING YOU A BOOK ABOUT THAT, IT'S REALLY GOOD

AND ALSO...

I'm suddenly very worried about that...

Can I really persuade him to let me leave?

ANYWAY, LET'S JUST WAIT A LITTLE AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS WITH THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION

CONTACT ME AGAIN, ALL RIGHT?

I'LL SEE YOU OFF TO THE STATION.

THANK YOU

STAND

ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?

AH! YES!

I wish all men in the world were like senpai...

It's all right, I'll take care of the bill. I can afford that much.

They are both men, but so different from each other.

WHAT ..?

I HAVE A FEW THINGS TO—

PRESI-DENT,

IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT TO RETURN TO THE COMPANY AGAIN AT SUCH AN HOUR?

IT'S FINE.

PRESIDENT, THAT IS...

IS THAT WHAT SHE CALLS "CHANGE OF JOB"...?

CHANGE HER JOB ?

NOW I HAVE ONE MORE THING TO TAKE CARE OF THERE.

YES.

WE'RE GOING BACK TO THE COMPANY, SO MOVE IT.

COME OUT!

THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD?

OPEN

DOOM

T-THREW IT IN THE BIN?!

THREW IT IN THE WASTE BIN AT ONCE, OF COURSE.

NEVER MIND THAT I NEED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING

WHAT HAPPENED TO MY LETTER OF RESIGNA-TION?

?

SAKURABA SHINGO,

26 YEARS OLD

THUMP

SAY WHAT?!

DRAGGING YOURSELF TO ANOTHER COMPANY TO CHASE ANOTHER MAN'S ASS?

AND YOU? WHAT EXACTLY WILL BE "GOOD FOR YOUR CAREER"?

Imagine the effort it cost me to write it!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! YOU BRUTE!

JOINT STOCK COMPANY I-MAX, BOARD DIRECTOR.

CONCURRENTLY, CHIEF PRODUCER.

EVEN IF YOU SAY HE'S YOUR SENPAI FROM THE UNIVERSITY,

THAT'S ALL TRUE, BUT ..

THE REASON WAS THAT YOUR FATHER FAILED IN HIS BUSINESS.

YOU HAD TO QUIT UNIVERSITY BEFORE THE SUMMER OF YOUR FIRST YEAR

SOUMA?

AMAZING. I REALLY CAN'T HIDE ANYTHING FROM HER..

YOU RESEARCHED IT, DIDN'T YOU...? EVEN THINGS ABOUT ME... WAS IT SOUMA-SAN?

WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?

AND ALL THAT AFTER I WARNED YOU SO MANY TIMES NOT TO CHEAT ON ME..

THUNDER

SCRATCH

IT WASN'T HER.

I ABSOLUTELY COULDN'T ASK HER.

THAT'S WHAT OUR CONTRACT SAID! I TOLD YOU I WOULD NOT DO THAT!

I-TOLD-YOU!

I'M NOT CHEATING OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT!

WHY DO YOU NEED TO IMPROVE YOUR CAREER SO BADLY?

THEN WHY DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE YOUR JOB?

I don't think I can persuade him...

AND IN THE FUTURE, YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO WORK ANYMORE.

WE EAT AND LIVE TOGETHER, SO YOU CAN'T MISS ANYTHING

IF ONE LITTLE PAWN DISAPPEARS, YOUR COMPANY WON'T SUFFER, RIGHT?

IT'S DIFFERENT FOR SAKURABA-SENPAI.

CONTROL?!

I have no choice but to say it straight.

IT'S BECAUSE...

THE WAY THINGS ARE, YOU CONTROL ME COMPLETELY, HOKUTO

SENPAI WAS ALWAYS VERY CONSIDERATE OF ME.

HE OFFERED ME THIS JOB BECAUSE HE SAID HE KNOWS I WILL WORK HARD...

No... That's not what I wanted to say...

HE WAS JUST FLATTERING YOU.

These things only scratch the surface of the problem...

CAN YOU BLAME ME IF I DO?

WILL YOU FOLLOW HIM ANYWHERE HE SAYS JUST BECAUSE OF THAT?

I'M HAPPY TO FEEL NEEDED. ISN'T IT ONLY NATURAL THAT I SHOULD WANT TO GO THERE?

I HAVE A WILL, TOO, YOU KNOW... I'M A WOMAN...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING YOU'RE SAYING.

IF YOU'RE SO HAPPY, THEN WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

OF COURSE YOU DON'T ..

GRAB

GOOD NIGHT .

WAIT!

THIS CONVER-SATION IS NOT OV—

SWING

All my hopes that maybe he'd understand what I was trying to say, were in vain.

He really doesn't see me as anything but his property.

CLOSE

ANY NEWS?

NOTHING ..

THAT'S BAD.

MAY- BE

MAYBE YOU SHOULD APPLY TO SOME LABOR UNION OR SOMETHING?

HIYA!

But even so...

Even so, I still can't...

If I tell him the truth...

I'll be totally dishonored.

YOU KNOW, TODAY...

BUT IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT? I'M STILL AN OUTSIDER...

IT'S FINE!

YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE, DON'T YOU?

YOU COULD COME AND TAKE A LOOK AT MY COMPANY.

!

THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU

LET'S GO!

IT'S NOT FAR FROM HERE

AH! AREN'T YOU HUNGRY?

Then,

why do I still...

So very different from that man!

Sakuraba-senpai is really so considerate and kind!

BE BEEP!

BEEP!

EH? IS HE HONKING TO US?

Step

What...?

SLAM

I CAN'T SAY HIS NAME! I

HM... AREN'T YOU PRESIDENT

BLUSH

UM DO YOU REALLY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH HER?

Why?!

YES

I DO

WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

I DON'T APPRECIATE YOU COMING AND STEALING WHAT'S

MINE.

TAKA-NASHI..

ARE YOU SURE YOU REALLY HAVE NO URGENT AND RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS ON YOUR HANDS RIGHT NOW?

I-I DON'T! THERE'S NOTHING OF THE SORT!

BUT IF YOUR BOSS IS SO PARTICULAR AS TO-

REALLY HAS NOTHING MUCH TO DO. THAT MUCH IS TRUE.

SHE

BUT WHEN I SAY "MINE", I MEAN, SHE'S

MY WIFE.

.....SAY WHAT?

YOU! YOU CAN'T SPEAK ABOUT YOUR BOSS LIKE THAT IN FRONT OF HIM!

ANYWAY, JUST FORGET IT AND LET'S GO!

I MEAN, JUST THINK ABOUT IT!

EH...? WIFE...? WHOSE?

Y-YOU MISHEARD!

O-OR-OR MAYBE MY BOSS IS JOKING!

ME, BEING THE PRESIDENT'S WIFE!

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, ISNT IT?!

GRAB

WAIT, YOU LITTLE...!

YAKUZA

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IMPOSSIBLE? WHAT?

WHO WAS THE ONE WHO WENT ALL BALLISTIC AND SAID,

"TREAT ME LIKE YOUR WIFE," AND WHATNOT?

EH?!

BACK IN THAT ARCHIVE ROOM,

SOB.

AND IT'S NOT LIKE YOU REALLY STARTED TREATING ME LIKE A WIFE BECAUSE OF THAT!

YOU DAMNED

SHUT YOUR TRAP! HOW CAN I REMEMBER SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED SO LONG AGO?!

DON'T REMEM-BER?!

YOU WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT ONE! YOU EVEN BOUGHT THAT UNDERWEAR AND EVERY-THING!

AND SINCE WHEN ARE DINNERS AND HOTELS A WAY TO TREAT YOUR WIFE?!

HOW CAN I HELP CATCHING COLDS?!

EVERY TIME I TRY TO, YOU GO, "I HAVE A HEADACHE," "I HAVE A COLD"!

ARGH! AND JUST WHEN I THOUGHT YOU COULDN'T GET ANY WORSE!

YOU LEFT IT IN SUCH A PLACE FOR THE WHOLE WORLD TO SEE! AND BY THE WAY, IT WASN'T TO MY TASTE AT ALL!

YOU'RE THE WORST! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU PEEKED! YOU PERVERTED SCUM!

...!

SENPAI!

TA TAKANA

LET'S GO ALREADY!

I'M CHANGING MY JOB, AND THAT'S FINAL!

HUFF HUFF

HUFF HUFF

!

A... OUCH- OUCH- OUCH!

TAKANA-SHI?!

CUT OUT THE CRAP, WHO'S CONTROLLING YOU...?

REMIND ME.

WHEN HAVE I CONTROLLED ANYTHING ABOUT YOU?

SQUEEZE

I DON'T HAVE A HOLD OVER ANYTHING OF YOURS.

NOT YOUR HEART, NOT YOUR BODY, NOT ANYTHING.

SO REMIND ME. UNTIL YOU DO, I WON'T LET GO.

WAIT A...

WAIT A MINUTE, WHAT KIND OF EMBARRASSING THINGS ARE YOU BLABBING ABOUT?!

SENPAI MIGHT FIGURE OUT THAT WE HAVEN'T HAD SEX, EVEN ONCE!

WAH! WAH! AH, SENPAI, FORGET YOU JUST HEARD THAT!

ANYWAY!

YOU WILL STAY WITH ME.

I WON'T LET YOU GO TO A PLACE WHERE I CAN'T SEE YOU

ALL RIGHT THEN.

I'LL GIVE IT UP THIS TIME.

I WON'T TAKE TAKANASHI.

SE... SENPAI!

..!

ALTHOUGH I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU DIDN'T TELL ME A THING ABOUT YOUR MARRIAGE, TAKANASHI .

BUT WE'LL MEET AGAIN,

NOW THAT WE GOT IN TOUCH AGAIN.

I'M VERY SORRY ABOUT THAT!

BUT I REALLY WANT TO WORK FOR YOU!

YES, I KNOW THAT.

SENPAI!

SENPAI, HOW COULD YOU?!

SENPAI!

SENPAI~!

PLEASE, WAIT!

SHUT UP!

I can't take this anymore...

THIS is all it takes to fool me.

Sigh

.. you.

..

weep

I MADE A FOOL OUT OF MYSELF BEFORE SENPAI...!

DAMN

I CAN'T LOOK HIM IN THE EYES ANYMORE...!

SHOVE

YOU CAN'T FOOL ME THAT EASILY!

WHY WON'T YOU LET ME CHANGE MY JOB?!

GYAH!

YOU ARE THE ONE WHO DROVE ME TO THIS!

ARE YOU SO DAMNED SLOW!

CAN'T YOU JUST SIT QUIETLY FOR ONCE?!

WHY

SLAP

YOU'RE SUCH A GENUINE BOTHER...

REALLY.

WHY DID YOU EVEN BECOME MY WIFE?

Behind those words...

I saw Hokuto's real feelings for the first time.

HMPH!

I didn't really feel bad about being called "a bother."

WOW, YOU LOOK SO UNCOOL WHEN YOU'RE ANGRY...

HMPH

Maybe I really am an idiot.

BUT

I REALLY DON'T WANT US TO DIVORCE.

AS IF I'D LET THINGS END NOW,

I'd rea... said that

WHEN I HAVEN'T EVEN HAD YOU ONCE, YET.

I was sure he'd say something like,

"Yeah, because I won't be your boss anymore."

LOOK AT THE TIME...

MAYBE WE SHOULD GET SOMETHING TO EAT...

...

My breath was caught in my throat.

LET'S GO.

EH?

DINNER. PICK WHAT YOU LIKE.

NOO-DLES

OR OKONO-MIYAKI...?

EH? HOKUTO, CAN YOU EAT OKONOMIYAKI?

I CAN. WHY?

WHAT...?

I THOUGHT YOU DINED IN FIVE-STAR RESTAURANTS EVERY DAY OR SOMETHING

YOU'RE ALL RIGHT WITH SUCH STUFF?

And they say women are suckers for luxury

I GUESS I MISUNDER-STOOD YOU.

IF WE COUNT YAGAMI,

YOU'RE UNEXPECTEDLY POPULAR WITH MEN

WAS THERE ANYTHING EXCEPT YAGAMI-KUN...?

POPU-LAR...?

?

JUST NOW, YOU WERE...

ANYWAY, I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO CHANGE MY OPINION OF YOU

...?

Whatever.

Maybe I'm too naive, but...

Maybe I should try believing in him a little more

I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND YOU

NOTHING, FORGET IT

EEK

Sob Sob

SENPAI, SAVE ME..

SIZZLE

SIZZLE

You're damn clumsy!

WHAT'S WITH THAT?!

ROAST IT MORE EVENLY!

TO BE CONTINUED

Credits

Scanner : Marcy & P-chan
Editor : Adventaddict
Translator : Mari
Proofreader : Bumblebea
QC-er : Adrift

Midnight scans
Aerandria

Credits

Scanner : Marcy
Editor : Anelim
Translator : Asahina
Proofreader : Bumblebea
Cleaner : Lacaille

Aerandria
Midnightscans

Credits

Scanner : Marcy
Editor : Anelim
Translator : Asahina
Proofreader : Bumblebea
Cover : Lacaille

Aerandria
Midnightscans

Not to mention bloody editors, too.
Oh, so its true?!
Should we offer our help... just for them? ...by joining them for smut.
HUH?
Its true?! ...are you referring...to the recruitment ads that... Midnight Scans has put up?
They are looking for... Japanese Translators!
But... but... President!
They expect a bloody miracle! Here, help them...
...help them review these forms...
Join them now!!! Help them with their smut...